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The Director of Central Intelligence

Washington, D. C. 20505

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31 August 1983

The Honorable Lawrence S. Eagleburger  
Under Secretary for Political Affairs  
Department of State  
Washington, D.C. 20520

Dear Secretary Eagleburger:

I am enclosing a copy of the National HUMINT Collection Plan on International Narcotics for your personal review. Additional copies will be sent to the Assistant Secretary, International Narcotics Matters, for appropriate distribution to key diplomatic and consular posts. The Plan is based on the conclusions and recommendations of the narcotics intelligence community and was developed under the general auspices of the National Intelligence Officer for Narcotics. Its essential purpose is to provide broad intelligence collection guidance for the Intelligence Community consistent with my duties and responsibilities to the President and the National Security Council as detailed in Executive Order 12333.

The Plan also provides advisory tasking of US Government organizations which are not part of the National Foreign Intelligence Program (NFIP). As you know, the Bureau for International Narcotic Matters has taken a strong interest in the Plan's development as have several other non-NFIP agencies such as the Drug Enforcement Administration, US Coast Guard, Customs, AID, and the USIA.

As the President's primary adviser on national foreign intelligence, I am particularly concerned that the collection of information on international narcotics activities receives the highest priority attention. In this regard, the coordination and participation of NFIP and non-NFIP elements in the [redacted] narcotics collection effort of individual Missions is of singular importance.

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I am requesting that the Department of State take the lead in orchestrating this effort and formally instruct appropriate Chiefs of Mission and/or the DCMs to provide a regular forum for developing and monitoring a comprehensive Mission all-source narcotics intelligence collection coordination strategy and for resolving any problems which might develop. It

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is imperative that regularly scheduled meetings are held in order to ensure the most effective use of resources and that relevant country team members, [redacted] are aware of each other's respective collection needs and responsibilities. As the HUMINT Plan suggests, the Annual Narcotics Situation Report, which all missions are required to submit, should reflect the full narcotics intelligence resources of the the Mission. In addition, I would strongly endorse the preparation of periodic mission assessments of narcotics developments on a regular basis.

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As you know, the Central Intelligence Agency is the primary agency in the US Government with responsibility for the clandestine collection of foreign intelligence abroad. Under E.O. 12333, the CIA is specifically authorized to collect, produce, and disseminate intelligence on foreign aspects of narcotics production and trafficking. And under Section 1.7.g. of the Executive Order, I have a responsibility to ensure that the procedures "governing criminal narcotics intelligence activities abroad. . . are consistent with foreign intelligence programs."

I have asked the Deputy Director for Operations to instruct Chiefs of Station in key narcotics producing and transshipment countries to ensure that strategic narcotics intelligence of national security concern is promptly disseminated to Washington headquarters level. A principal objective here is to create a suitable mechanism for both identifying strategic intelligence collected by the DEA and its timely dissemination to respective headquarters elements.

I am also sending copies of the HUMINT Plan under separate cover to the other NFIP and non-NFIP agencies involved in the foreign narcotics collection effort. I am asking them to provide a written description of their ability to respond to the collection objectives for which they have accepted responsibility. [redacted]

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[redacted] I should also mention here that the Defense Intelligence Agency has accepted a more forthright role in narcotics intelligence collection and the active participation of Defense Attaches in country team narcotics meetings should be encouraged.

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In conclusion, I would like to stress that it is of the utmost importance to be able to assure responsible members of the Executive and Legislative Branches that the priority the President attaches to the narcotics issue has been communicated directly to both intelligence and non-intelligence elements of the US Government. The attached HUMINT collection study

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represents a concerted effort by the Intelligence Community to meet this objective. It will require, however, your strong support and active participation for its effective implementation. In this regard, I know I can count on your personal lead.

Sincerely,

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John N. McMahon  
Acting Director

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Enclosure:  
As stated

cc:  
Assistant Secretary  
Bureau for International Narcotic Matters  
Director, Bureau of Intelligence and Research



- this will be key  
topic for many Congressional  
hearings when they resume

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